

Marshnotes[®]



**BRITISH COLUMBIA WATERFOWL SOCIETY
FALL 2012**

BRITISH COLUMBIA WATERFOWL SOCIETY

Managers of the George C. Reifel Migratory Bird Sanctuary Since 1963

- dedicated to the conservation and study of migratory waterfowl-

Marshnotes:

Editor: Kathleen Fry

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DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE
OF MARSHNOTES

JANUARY 15th, 2013

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Reception: Laura Jordison
Biologist: Shanna Fredericks
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Hours of Operation: 9:00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. Every day. The Sanctuary is wheelchair accessible.

Admission: Members: Free
Non-Members: Adults: \$5 Children (2-14 yrs) and Seniors (60yrs +): \$3
School Groups: Special discounts; Pre-booking required.

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Getting Feeders Ready for the Fall

Watching birds at feeders brings pleasure to a lot of people, but feeders take commitment and some thought. Bird species have different diets and also sometimes prefer specific feeder styles. Platform feeders, for example, are an option for sparrows, towhees, and juncos that do not have the agility to feed from a perch. Some birds such as warblers, vireos, creepers kinglets, wrens and woodpeckers are insectivores and might spend more time in trees in your yard searching through leaves and bark for bugs.

Remember to keep feeders clean and free of any wet seed. Wet seed is likely to be rejected, it may sprout in the feeder, or it may start to develop *Salmonella* bacteria. Clean feeders under a running hose or tap while using a scrub brush to get into all the corners. Wooden feeders are a bit more work as wood holds more moisture and bacteria. Some people use a mild bleach and water solution. Remember to rinse well and dry feeders thoroughly before filling with fresh seed.

Black-oil Sunflower Seed is probably the most nutritious and popular choice with the widest variety of birds. The larger unsalted striped sunflower seeds are the next best but the thicker shells are harder to crack.

The millet (round beige or white seeds) in wild bird seed mixes is favoured by many of the ground feeding species such as juncos, towhees, finches, sparrows and doves. These birds tend to scratch on the ground under

feeders as they are not able to feed easily from tube feeders. Plain unsalted peanuts attract chickadees, jays and some woodpeckers, but remember not to leave them lying around too long as they tend to go rancid fast and are susceptible to contamination by bacteria. Some birds such as robins, thrushes, waxwings and flickers like fruity treats such as raisins, currants, raspberries, pears and apples. Niger and Thistle seed will attract goldfinches, siskins and redpolls. Special feeders are made to dispense these seeds.

Suet cakes are ideal for a variety of birds such as red-winged blackbirds, chickadees, nuthatches, woodpeckers and jays. If the starlings find them the suet will be gone in record time. Suet cakes should only be put out when the weather is very cold so the suet does not spoil or melt and contaminate the feathers of the birds and leave them less insulated for the winter.

Did you know that the Dark-eyed Junco, Northern Flicker and Black-capped Chickadee were the top 3 species reported at feeders in British Columbia? I came across this tidbit when reading the fall 2011 issue of Bird Watch Canada (a publication of Bird Studies Canada).

Text: Varri Raffan, Gift Shop Manager

About Our Covers

Front Cover: Cackling Goose © Jim Martin

Back Cover: The Old Decoy © Kathleen Fry

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Manager's Report

Total visitor numbers for July, August and September (18,000) were about the same as last year, down a bit in July and August and making it up in the beautiful clear days of September. It was a record-breaking three month period with virtually nonstop hot days with no rain from July 6th onwards for three months, leaving the Sanctuary very hot, dry, and dusty.

In late summer, as in most years, we caught up with some maintenance projects. The Bio-Green septic system that serves the washrooms consists of tanks, a pipe system within a sand hill, and a collection ditch. While the system continues to perform well, the pipes were inspected and repaired, and the sand hill refurbished with new sand and grass sod this summer.

On the North Dyke, safety fencing along the dyke top was constructed where the Ducks Unlimited Canada water control pipe was replaced last year. To address last winter's concerns about the location of the Sanctuary's boundaries in relation to offshore hunting, we helped Environment Canada to re-establish a line of boundary markers on metal poles along the southern boundary out on the mudflats in July.

In the Southwest Marsh, a wave-reducing boom was constructed by linking numerous loose driftwood logs together across the pond. This boom has proven to be a very popular roost site for shorebirds and waterfowl. At the viewing platform on the north side of Southwest Marsh, in late August, a landscaping firm (Shangri-La Contracting) reinforced an eroding shoreline under the structure with special Delta-Lok materials. Salal was planted on the top of the new structure, and we ask people to refrain from throwing bird seed down onto that area so that the ducks do not trample these plants until they are well-established.

All throughout the summer months, vegetation was pruned back from trails and in mid-September a contractor was brought in to trim the seaward dyke hedges and along the back road.

Biological investigations over the summer months included: camera-monitoring of Barn Swallow nests after several vanished overnight; mapping of Red-eared Slider turtle nests; bird surveys every two weeks; control of invasive plant species; and the capture of various critters that were wounded or behaving oddly, the most notable ones being a Canada Goose running around all day in very tight circles and a very young Easter Grey Squirrel found on the trail.



Our new wave boom in Southwest Marsh with roosting shorebirds and ducks. Photo: Kathleen Fry

We have done bird surveys every two weeks since March, and the results have been helpful in verifying overall trends in numbers. Some observations from this summer (apart from Bird Highlights page 8): In July, Canada Geese went from 100 birds underfoot (literally, as they finished their annual moult) early in the month to a whopping 2200 staging offshore two weeks later; A couple of Cackling Geese spent the whole summer with us (see front cover); In late July, the West Field often had over a thousand shorebirds, with Western Sandpipers, Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs making up the big flocks, but with many interesting species mixed in; Caspian Terns were seen far more consistently over the summer possibly due to a new nest colony in Richmond this year; In September, migrants from the north and interior nesting areas seemed delayed due to warm dry weather, but we saw Mallard numbers increase from their summer low of about 500 birds to 1500 in the space of a few weeks in late September when the weather finally changed, and they have doubled since then; Sandhill Crane flocks started to join our summer group of five in mid-August, with an increase first to 17 birds, then 38 birds present from September 30th onward into mid-October.

Bird distribution in the Sanctuary in late August and most of September was undoubtedly affected by the drawdown of the Southwest Marsh for the shoreline reinforcement project at the viewing platform. We generally keep water levels high in this compartment, as it acts as a reservoir from which to keep the other ponds topped up during the summer months of evaporation loss.

In late August, when we dropped the levels, half of the pond turned to mudflats. This new “shallows”, with its stranded fish and logs to roost on, made the Southwest Marsh very popular with the Yellowlegs and Dowitchers. We thought the whole idea was great, until gravity started working on water from the pond by the Gift Shop, and it also drained away through the Southwest Marsh. The silt and clay substrate of both ponds quickly dried out so much that it looked like ceramic tiles minus the grout.

The bank reinforcement project only took one day, but the re-watering of substrate and re-filling of the House Pond took three weeks, and it has taken until mid-October to get the Southwest Marsh fully functional as a reservoir, so the West Field also experienced a bit of a hot summer drawdown and more mudflats than usual in September.

There is always something new to learn!



The reinforced bank below the Viewing Platform in the Southwest Marsh. Photo: Kathleen Fry.

Reminders for Visitors

Remember to watch your time in the late afternoons, as we need all visitors to be out of the Sanctuary and going home no later than 5 pm.

Weekend crowds have increased substantially with the arrival of the Lesser Snow Geese from their nesting grounds on Wrangel Island, Russia. If you are seeking a quiet birding walk, bear in mind that Sundays can be very busy days, and that we also now have many school groups booked to visit weekdays, most of which start at 10 am.

On the other hand, if you enjoy sharing your knowledge of birds with the public, we greatly appreciate those willing to serve as volunteer hosts on these busy days. Our visitors often want to learn more about birds, and we get many compliments on days when we have volunteers posted to answer basic questions about birds or perhaps share a view of an interesting bird through a spotting scope. Sign up at the office, and we will schedule you in.

Note also that our Society strives to keep friendly relations with our neighbours Environment Canada and Westham Island farmers. Farm fields (and farm roads) on the island are either privately owned or managed specifically for wildlife. People should not enter these areas without landowner permission, even if it is just to take pictures.

The Lesser Snow Goose flocks we see in the fall consist of some birds which will pass through en route to California, but the majority are part of what is known as the Fraser-Skagit sub-population. They will be spending the winter either locally in the Fraser Delta, or just south of the Canada/ United States border in the Skagit River delta in Washington. If you are viewing large flocks, look for the brown plastic neck collars that researchers in Washington put on some of the birds this spring. If you see a collar, try read the number on it and report it to our office along with the date and location, as this helps researchers to better understand the movement of flocks in this sub-population. For more information on Lesser Snow Geese, visit our website www.reifelbirdsanctuary.com.

Text: Kathleen Fry, R. P. Bio
Sanctuary Manager

Another Successful Annual Pig & Corn Roast

On Saturday September 8th, 2012 the B.C. Waterfowl Society held its 24th Annual Pig and Corn Roast Fund-raiser Dinner. It was a beautiful evening enjoyed by the 193 guests feasting on 2 stuffed pigs, local sweet corn, a variety of salads, buns and refreshments.

Many thanks are due to the volunteer teams that make this an annual success. From 4:30 am onwards, the 2 pigs were cooked under the supervision of Henry Parker, Leonard Brady and Gerry Lyon. Chris Ross, Russ Bissett, Gord Tull, Jack Flaig, Dick and Bonnie Anderson all joined the team to make our dinner a tasty success. Keith Bogart and Helmut Hochke brought their meat carving skills.

Preparation and serving of the food, bartending, raffle ticket sales and setup and tear down of the event we thank the following volunteers: Irene Banack, Arlie Darby, Jenny Hard, Su Langlois, Vera Maceluch, Karl Pollak, Doug Raffan, Brian Self, Mary Taitt and Barbara Warrick.



Guests at the Pig & Corn Roast. Photos: Eric Rossici



BCWS Director Wayne Diakow and his helper Jenny Telford announced the dinner and raffle ticket winners and Society President Jack Bates assisted with the raffle draw.

On behalf of the staff Kathleen Fry, Dave McClue, Shanna Fredericks, Laura Jordison and myself, we thank all who pulled together at the end of the evening lending a hand with the cleanup. We greatly appreciated your help. It went very quickly and smoothly.



Some of the Raffle Prizes for the event. Photo: Laura Jordison.

We would like to thank the following local merchants and Sanctuary members for their contributions of prizes towards our popular raffle draw.

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Westham Estate Winery | Black Bond Books |
| Bosley's Pet Foods | Canada Safeway |
| Cobblestone Cottage | Double R Rentals |
| Ducks Unlimited Canada | Heide Young |
| Garden Works at Mandeville | Pets n Us |
| Ladner Museum and Archives | Save-On Foods |
| Massey's Marine Supplies | Stillwater Sports |
| Roddyck Feed and Farm Supply | Vagellis Grill |
| South Delta Paint and Design | Barry Roth |
| West Coast Resorts | |

Text: Varri Raffan, Gift Shop Manager

Gift Shop News

If you are looking for Christmas gifts, we have quite a few items that might suit. Our 2013 Sanctuary calendar is now available for \$18.95, and is filled with wonderful images donated from our talented members. Thank you all who submitted photos for consideration for the 2013 calendar.



Gift memberships are a popular idea. The single membership is \$25 and a family membership (immediate family only) is \$50. Memberships are good for a year from purchase date.

Other items in our year-round stock of books, jigsaw puzzles, cards, mugs, trays, coasters, shirts, stained glass, bird feeders and various childrens toys all make unique gift ideas for all ages.

To avoid line-ups and crowds in the shop, visit on weekdays. We accept VISA, Mastercard, cheque or cash. Sorry no Debit.

Text: Varri Raffan, Gift Shop Manager

Why be a Member?

As a Member, you receive the following benefits:

FREE admission to the George C. Reifel Migratory Bird Sanctuary 365 days a year.

Quarterly issue of the BCWS publication "Marshnotes".

A 10% discount on purchases in the Sanctuary Gift Shop.

Membership in one of British Columbia's most respected conservation organizations.

With your support the British Columbia Waterfowl Society is able to:

Staff, maintain and expand facilities at the Sanctuary for the benefit of its visitors and members.

Provide interpretive and education programs, including guided tours for organized groups of all ages.

Contribute towards important scientific research on waterfowl to determine their life cycle needs for survival.

Provide support for like-minded organizations who are working on waterfowl-related projects.

Enclosed is my cheque or VISA/Mastercard number for:

SINGLE Membership: \$25

FAMILY Membership: \$50

LIFE Membership: \$500

Donation (tax deductible)

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Website: www.reifelbirdsanctuary.com

Bird Highlights

There were not many surprises in July as it is not a big month for bird migration. Attention now focuses on the return of shorebirds and to local nesting birds. The count for July 2012 stood at 91 species.

July 1 – July 7

July 1st a Peregrine Falcon was spotted. These falcons are seen most of the summer in areas such as the West Field where the shorebirds congregate. On July 4th both a Great Horned Owl and Barred Owl were recorded. The return of the first adult Black-crowned Night-Heron was on July 6th. On July 7th, Virginia Rail, Spotted Sandpiper, Barn Owl, Belted Kingfisher, Pacific-slope Flycatcher and Semipalmated Plover were all reported. 70 species were reported, with other species of note being Black-headed Grosbeak and Swainson's Thrush.

July 8 – July 14

The first Gadwall brood of 7 was seen July 8th. Gadwalls hatch much later than Mallards, with most Gadwall broods seen in July while Mallards can have broods as early as the end of March. The first report for the summer of a female Hooded Merganser was on July 9th. These birds will nest in boxes (like Wood Ducks) and natural cavities in either living or dead trees. In this week a count of approximately 200 Cedar Waxwings were recorded at the Sanctuary, with 1 or 2 Bohemian Waxwings in with them. There were 66 species seen this week, with some highlights being Turkey Vulture, Pectoral Sandpiper and Wilson's Snipe.

July 15 – July 21

This week had an early sighting of a Northern Flicker. Both Black and Vaux's Swifts were spotted. Last month an Eastern Kingbird was seen, and this week a Western Kingbird was seen. Both are in the Flycatcher family. The Western Kingbird has a pale head with yellow on the belly while the Eastern Kingbird has a black head and white belly. Nine different shorebird species were reported this week.

July 22 – July 28

A Pied-billed Grebe and a female Hooded Merganser with 2 young were seen. Pied-billed Grebes are small tailless diving birds who eat fish, frogs, snails, aquatic insect and their own feathers. The odd behaviour of eating their own feathers is thought to protect their stomach lining by acting as padding so that the fish bones they ingest do not damage them as they are

digested and pass through the intestine. 2 juvenile Great Horned Owls, a single female American Wigeon and the first sighting of an Orange-crowned Warbler were recorded. Five Sandhill Cranes were at the Sanctuary this week (our resident pair plus 3 one or two year old birds).

August is the month to see a large variety of shorebirds (16 different ones were recorded) and by mid month dabbling ducks start to show up from the north. August had a total count of 104 species observed averaging 78 species per week.

July 29 – August 4

Two adult Black-crowned Night-Herons were found north of the viewing platform in the channel along the Center Dyke. Usually we see them opposite the warming hut but on most mornings the 2 juvenile Great Horned Owls have been roosting in that area. We had our first summer sighting of a Red-necked Phalarope, Northern Goshawk and Sora Rail.

August 5 – August 11

Highlights were a Black-headed Grosbeak, Yellow Warbler, Barn Owl, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Belted Kingfisher, Red-necked Phalarope and early returns of a White-crowned Sparrow and American Coot. Coots do not generally nest here, with the last nest record back in 1985. One female Hooded Merganser and 5 juvenile birds were seen most days in the Southwest Marsh area.

August 12 – August 18

It was in this week on August 12, 2007 that we first saw a Eurasian Collared Dove at the Sanctuary. Now they are regular visitors. This week the water level in the House Pond dropped due to shoreline repairs nearby, and the pond shrunk to a small area around the Warming Hut. The Greater Yellowlegs took advantage of this and fed on the stranded Three-spined Stickleback. These fish have defensive spines they raise along their backs, and it was quite interesting to watch the Yellowlegs wrestle them into just the right position to swallow them.

On August 15th a single Sora Rail was also spotted feeding along the shore edge under the Warming Hut. A high count of 10 Red-necked Phalaropes were observed. Our first summer sighting of Western Tanager, Baird's Sandpiper, Stilt Sandpiper, Willow Flycatcher and Olive-sided Flycatcher were all reported in this week consisting of 81 species.

August 19 – August 25

The 2 young Great Horned Owls were still being seen this week. High counts of 15 Stilt Sandpipers were reported. We have been seeing up to 3 adult Black-crowned Night Herons this week. August 23rd a single Pileated Woodpecker was spotted. August 24th a Purple Martin was seen flying out along the seaward dyke. August 25th three Ospreys were seen flying over the parking lot. The first fall reports at the Sanctuary for Warbling Vireo, McGillivray's Warbler and Black-throated Gray Warbler were all seen this week.

August 26 – September 1

By this week, there were only a few Rufous Hummingbirds left as most of these are now on their way to Mexico for the winter. We left one feeder up in hopes of attracting an Anna's Hummingbird. The hardy Anna's Hummingbird will over winter in the Lower Mainland. Shorebird and warbler activity continued to be good this week. The following birds were reported for the first time this fall at the Sanctuary: Pine Siskin, Pacific-slope Flycatcher, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Red-eyed Vireo, Orange-crowned Warbler, Townsend's Warbler and Lincoln's Sparrow.

September brings in a larger amount of songbirds and duck variety from the north. The last week of September is when we typically see the first arrival of Lesser Snow Geese. This month 103 species were recorded.

Sept 2 – Sept 8

A variety of shorebirds were still present. A Common Loon was spotted offshore. This week had a total count of 79 species with the following highlights: Barn Owl, Stilt Sandpiper, Townsend's Warbler, Black-throated Gray Warbler and Purple Martin.

Sept 9 – Sept 15

High counts of 22 Baird Sandpipers were seen this week. This week, the following birds had the first return sightings for the fall: Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Vaux's Swift, Greater White-fronted Goose, Dark-eyed Junco and White-crowned Sparrow.

Sept 16 – Sept 22

On the 22nd we had the first fall arrival for both the Golden-crowned Sparrow and the Varied Thrush. Wilson's Snipe, Pine Siskin, Purple Martin and Barn Owl were other good sightings for the week.

Sept 23 – Sept 29

Warbler and shorebird numbers are dropping as they continue their migration south. Warblers mostly head to southern USA and into the tropics. Most shorebirds head further south into South America.

On September 23rd the first flock of Lesser Snow Geese was seen flying over the Sanctuary. A White-throated Sparrow was reported near the end of the East dyke. This sparrow is not often seen on the west coast but is mainly in the interior of B.C. east to Newfoundland. September 29th had the first fall sighting of a Lesser Scaup. A big highlight for the last day of the month was the early morning report of 38 Sandhill Cranes seen by the tower. This has been one of our largest counts so far. In November most of these will leave our area to migrate south. American Pipit, Townsend's Warbler, MacGillivray's Warbler, Ruddy Duck (female) and a Chipping Sparrow were other good birds spotted in this week of 77 species.

Text: Varri Raffan, Gift Shop Manager

The Volunteer Corner

Special Thanks To:

- ◆ Our regular Sunday birding team of Mary Taitt and Brian Self, as well as Jim Martin, Murray McDonald and Karl Pollack for helping host visitors on busy weekends.
- ◆ Special thanks to Bill Topping for helping in the Museum Sunday mornings all summer.
- ◆ Emma Turgeon and Ivy Li for their regular blackberry pruning in late summer work parties.
- ◆ Eric Rossici, Eileen Axford, and Justin Malkonin, for bagging seed and filling bird feeders.
- ◆ Our summer newsletter mailout team of Jim and Jean Marsh, Eric Rossici, Eileen Axford, Laura Jordison, and Jim Martin..
- ◆ Su Langlois and Vera Maceluch for joining our Sanctuary bird survey team.
- ◆ As always, the team of Arlie Darby, Irene Banack, and Barbara Warrick for the beautiful flower gardens around the Museum and wash-rooms.

Volunteers Wanted For:

- ◆ Hosting visitors along trails on busy weekends. Please leave your contact information at the Office.

Thanks very much, everyone!

Text: Kathleen Fry, Sanctuary Manager

The North American Beaver

The North American Beaver (*Castor canadensis*), though rarely seen, certainly makes its presence known in the Sanctuary. Keeping up with these clever, hardworking creatures can be a daily challenge. While exact population numbers are unknown, there appear to be three beaver colonies in the Sanctuary, as well as visiting beavers from the Alaksen National Wildlife Area.

There are typically 4-6 beavers in a colony: the parents, yearlings (2-3 years old), and the young (kits) of the year. The average density for beaver colonies in Canada is 1.0-1.2 colonies/km², suggesting that we have a fairly high population density in the Sanctuary. Beaver colonies in protected areas with plenty of suitable habitat and food tend to be larger, so it's not surprising that the Sanctuary supports such a healthy population.



Young beaver kit. Photo: Kathleen Fry

Beavers are most often associated with the classic mud-and-stick lodge; however, they will also excavate 'bank lodges' inside steep muddy slopes. Both types of beaver homes can be found in the Sanctuary, along with a network of trails, tunnels, and deep channels. One of these stick lodges can be seen in the pond directly behind the portable toilet. This lodge is not always active and is likely used seasonally by male beavers while their kits are nursed in the main lodge throughout the summer.

Beavers are extremely vigilant when it comes to maintaining water levels in their ponds. Deep water is needed for underwater travel, floating and transporting trees and storing food underwater. Their greatest concern is for the underwater entrances to the lodge.

These entrances must remain underwater, protecting the beavers from land predators such as coyotes. In a natural wetland, beavers will build several dams in order to control water levels.



Beaver lodge. Photo: Shanna Fredericks.

Here in the Sanctuary, which is managed by a system of water control structures, the beavers have little need for a network of dams; instead they rely on us to keep water levels fairly consistent. Their damming instincts are strong nonetheless; triggered by the sound of running water as it flows through our water controls, the beavers are constantly building dams on the control structures. These piles of mud, sticks, and vegetation must be removed from the controls on a regular basis to keep them functioning properly.



One of the hidden tunnels, (left), and a beaver eating blackberry leaves (right). Photo: Shanna Fredericks

A beaver's diet consists of a variety of plants. In the summer, they feed mainly on grasses, forbs, and aquatic plants. Our beavers seem to have a sweet tooth for blackberry leaves. Look closely at blackberry canes that hang into the water and you will notice that many have been stripped of their leaves as high up as the beaver can reach. In the winter, beavers shift their diet to trees such as aspen and willow. Our beavers feed mainly on poplar, willow, and birch, but will also eat hawthorn, crab-apple, and cherry trees, as a wide variety of tree species are needed to meet nutritional requirements.

In the fall, we see a noticeable increase in beaver activity as they prepare for the coming winter. Trees are felled at a rapid pace this time of year, coinciding with our own increased efforts to protect trailside trees with wire fencing. Evidence of their feeding activities can be seen in almost every pond. Look for small piles of recently chewed twigs along the shoreline. Early morning visitors may be lucky enough to find a fresh cut that has fallen or been dragged across the trail the night before. Beavers are consuming some of these trees to build up fat stores for the winter; however, many of the favorite tree species are instead stored in an underwater food cache outside the lodge. One such cache can be seen from our Center Dyke Trail; watch for fresh branches to be added in the coming months and by December you may even catch a glimpse of a beaver retrieving an early morning snack.



A winter food cache of twigs along the Center Dyke Trail.
Photo: Kathleen Fry

Beaver colonies are highly territorial. Colony boundaries are communicated by building and maintaining scent mounds. Piles of sediment are dredged from the pond bottom, deposited on the shoreline, and then sprayed with a chemical secretion called Castoreum. These scent posts are maintained year-round to enforce territorial boundaries, and efforts are intensified in the spring as young beavers leave their families and disperse in search of a new territory. Look closely along our shorelines to spot these sign posts.

Though sometimes frustrating from a management perspective, beavers are an important part of a wetland ecosystem and their never-ceasing industrious habits make for some very enjoyable and educational wildlife viewing opportunities. For a sneak peek into the lives of the Sanctuary beavers, please visit the website and enjoy some of our beaver footage captured by a trail camera.

Text: Shanna Fredericks, MSc.
Biologist

References:

Müller-Schwarze, D. (2011). *The Beaver: Its Life and Impact.* (Second Edition). New York: Cornell University Press.

Furbearer Management Guidelines: Beaver (*Castor canadensis*). <http://env.gov.bc.ca/fw/wildlife/trapping/docs/beaver.pdf>

Ladner Christmas Bird Count Dec. 23rd 2012

We are looking for birders to assist experienced Area Leaders by recording sightings, driving or spotting. Birders should be willing to go out for the day at first light until late afternoon. No experience is necessary.

The 12 Count Areas within the count circle include South Richmond, South Delta including parts of Burns Bog, Tsawwassen and Point Roberts, Boundary Bay, Brunswick Point, Westham Island and the George C. Reifel Migratory Bird Sanctuary.

For those who do not want to spend the day outdoors, we are also looking for feeder watchers who will record the birds seen at their feeders. The Post Count meeting will start at 5 pm in the Lecture Hall of the Sanctuary where dinner will be available (\$9.00 per person), and where we will do a count summary of species seen.

Jude Grass
Count Coordinator

For more information or to sign up contact Jude at 604-538-8774 or judegrass@shaw.ca.

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